

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance comprising:

impregnating a liquid-holdable material substance that can be impregnated with a liquid having vaporizability or a fluid in a super-critical state to an inside thereof with the liquid having vaporizability or the fluid in the super-critical state, ~~and;~~

charging the impregnated liquid-holdable material substance in a processing vessel;

reducing a pressure inside a ~~the~~ processing vessel while the liquid-holdable material substance is charged in the processing vessel for the liquid or the fluid in the super-critical state that has penetrated to the inside of the liquid-holdable material substance to expand by vaporization, thereby causing the liquid-holdable material substance to expand in a porous manner or ~~grinding the liquid-holdable material substance that has been processed into a porous state using an expanding force;~~

feeding another liquid or gas having a flavoring ingredient or seasoning ingredient into the processing vessel at a pressure that is greater than the reduced pressure and smaller than the atmospheric pressure to impregnate the porous liquid-holdable material substance with the other liquid or the other gas;

discharging the porous liquid-holdable material substance from the processing vessel; and

grinding the discharged porous liquid-holdable material substance by a grinder.

2. (currently amended) A method for processing a liquid-holdable

material substance comprising:

charging a liquid-holdable material substance that can be impregnated with a liquid having vaporizability or a fluid in a super-critical state to an inside thereof in a processing vessel;

~~impregnating feeding the liquid or the fluid into the processing vessel under a predetermined pressure and temperature to impregnate the liquid-holdable material substance with the liquid having vaporizability or the fluid in the super-critical state to the inside thereof; and~~

~~reducing the pressure inside the vessel for the liquid or the fluid in the super-critical state having penetrated to the inside of the liquid-holdable material substance to expand by vaporization, thereby causing the liquid-holdable material substance to expand in a porous manner or grinding the liquid-holdable material substance that has been processed into a porous state using an expanding force; and~~

~~feeding another liquid or gas having a flavoring ingredient or seasoning ingredient into the processing vessel under a pressure greater than the reduced pressure to impregnate the porous liquid-holdable material substance with the other liquid or the other gas;~~

~~discharging the porous liquid-holdable material substance from the processing vessel; and~~

~~grinding the discharged porous liquid-holdable material substance by a grinder.~~

3. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 2, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is heated when the ~~penetration step is performed~~ liquid or the fluid is fed into the processing vessel.

4. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 3, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is vibrated when the ~~depressurization step is performed~~ pressure in the processing vessel is reduced.

Claim 5 (canceled).

6. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim ~~5~~1, wherein:

the impregnating of the liquid-holdable material substance and the reducing of the pressure in the processing vessel are performed repetitively several times.

Claim 7 (canceled).

8. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim ~~7~~, wherein 1, further comprising:

heating the liquid-holdable material substance ~~is heated~~ at the time of impregnating the liquid-holdable material substance with ~~a post-processing fluid, and the post-processing fluid is solidified later by the other liquid or the other gas;~~

~~_____ cooling the liquid-holdable material substance after the impregnating of the liquid-holdable material substance with a post-processing fluid ends,~~ impregnated with the other liquid or the other gas in the processing vessel; and

~~_____ reducing at the pressure inside the vessel is performed after the cooling of the liquid-holdable material substance.~~

9. (previously presented) The method for processing a liquid-holdable

material substance according to Claim 1, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is coffee beans.

Claims 10 and 11 (canceled).

12. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 1, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is vibrated when the depressurization step is performed pressure in the processing vessel is reduced.

13. (currently amended) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 2, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is vibrated when the depressurization step is performed pressure in the processing vessel is reduced.

Claims 14 and 15 (canceled).

16. (previously presented) The method for processing a liquid-holdable material substance according to Claim 2, wherein:

the liquid-holdable material substance is coffee beans.